



ESL Vocabulary Worksheet for Adults

Reading Passage - Role Play Cards for Ordering Food in a Restaurant

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Reading Passage

In today's globalized world, dining out at a restaurant is a common occurrence. Whether you're a traveler exploring a new city or simply looking for a break from cooking at home, ordering food in English is a valuable skill. Let's take a look at how you can smoothly navigate a restaurant experience in English.

Imagine you're at a restaurant called "The International Bistro." As you sit down at your table, you're greeted by a friendly waiter who hands you a menu. The menu is full of enticing options, from appetizers like bruschetta to main courses like grilled salmon. You take a moment to peruse the choices and make your selection.

When the waiter returns to your table, it's time to place your order. You can use phrases like, "I'll have the Caesar salad for starters, please," or "I'd like the vegetarian pasta for

my main course." Don't forget to specify any preferences, such as how you'd like your steak cooked or if you have any allergies.

As you enjoy your meal, the waiter checks in on you, asking, "Is everything to your satisfaction?" You can respond with a polite "Yes, it's delicious, thank you!" or, if there's an issue, you can kindly let them know.

Now, let's practice ordering food in a restaurant with role play cards and exercises:

EXERCISE 1: Multiple-Choice Questions

1. What should you do if you have a food allergy when dining at a restaurant?
 - a) Keep it a secret
 - b) Tell the waiter about your allergies
 - c) Wait until you finish the meal to mention it
 - d) Order whatever you like

2. When the waiter asks, "Is everything to your satisfaction?" What is the appropriate response?
 - a) No, it's terrible!
 - b) Yes, it's delicious, thank you!
 - c) I don't like the food.
 - d) No, I want a refund!

3. What can you say to order the vegetarian pasta for your main course?
- a) "I'd like the vegetarian pasta for my main course."
 - b) "Where's the vegetarian pasta?"
 - c) "I'll have the steak, please."
 - d) "Give me anything."
4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an option in the restaurant's menu in the passage?
- a) Grilled salmon
 - b) Caesar salad
 - c) Bruschetta
 - d) Pizza
5. What is the primary purpose of the role play cards in this worksheet?
- a) To teach cooking techniques
 - b) To explain the history of restaurants
 - c) To help learners practice ordering food in English
 - d) To discuss travel destinations
6. How can you politely ask for the bill in a restaurant?
- a) "Bring me the dessert menu."
 - b) "I want to leave."
 - c) "Could we have the check, please?"

d) "I don't need the bill."

7. What should you do if you receive excellent service from the waiter?

- a) Ignore it
- b) Complain to the manager
- c) Leave a generous tip
- d) Speak rudely to the waiter

8. What is the purpose of specifying how you want your steak cooked?

- a) To confuse the waiter
- b) To make the order take longer
- c) To ensure it's prepared to your liking
- d) To annoy the chef

9. What is the appropriate way to address the waiter when placing your order?

- a) Call them by their first name
- b) Wave your hand to get their attention
- c) Politely say, "Excuse me" or "Waiter"
- d) Start ordering without any greeting

10. What should you do if you accidentally spill your drink in the restaurant?

- a) Laugh and leave it
- b) Ignore it and pretend it didn't happen

- c) Ask for assistance to clean it up
- d) Blame the waiter



EXERCISE 2: Fill-in-the-Gaps

Fill in the blanks with words or phrases from the passage:

1. When you sit down at the restaurant, the waiter hands you a _____.
2. The menu has a variety of _____ to choose from.
3. When placing your order, you can use phrases like, "I'll have the _____ salad for starters, please."
4. If there's an issue with your meal, you can kindly let the waiter _____.
5. It's important to _____ your dietary restrictions to the waiter.
6. Before you order, it's a good idea to check if the restaurant offers any daily _____.
7. When you're done with your meal, it's customary to _____ the table as a gesture of gratitude.
8. If you have any special dietary _____, be sure to communicate them clearly to the waiter.
9. The waiter may ask if you prefer a specific _____ or dressing for your salad.
10. If the restaurant is crowded, it's advisable to _____ a table in advance.



EXERCISE 3: Vocabulary Matching

Match the words with their meanings. Answers are scrambled.

Scrambled Words	Meanings
urppsptia	The place where you sit to eat
cpcsaialrsa	Small dishes before the main meal
okaece	To check if everything is okay
nmimangseiccno	To examine closely
sepatreiesv	The primary dish of the meal
ailpw	A formal request for a table at a restaurant

llaitetes	A written or printed description of dishes available at a restaurant
nremneseuot	The total cost of your meal before taxes and tip
otppi	An amount of money given to the restaurant staff for their service
senepesottir	A small amount of food served before the main course



EXERCISE 4: Discussion Questions

1. What is your favorite type of cuisine to enjoy at a restaurant?
2. Describe a memorable dining experience you've had at a restaurant.
3. How do you usually decide what to order when you go to a new restaurant?

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4. In your culture, is it common to leave tips at restaurants? How much is considered appropriate?
 5. Have you ever had a funny or awkward restaurant experience? Please share.
 6. How do restaurant experiences in your country differ from those described in the passage?
 7. Do you have any specific preferences when it comes to restaurant dining, such as sitting by the window or near the kitchen?
 8. What do you consider when deciding on an appropriate tip for the restaurant staff?
 9. Have you ever tried to replicate a dish you had at a restaurant at home? How did it turn out?
 10. In your opinion, what makes a restaurant truly outstanding?